

## Wansford Parish Council

### Deadline 9 Submission

#### Comments on the Applicant's Responses to the ExA's Additional Questions (ExQ3) Section 3.4.1 Scheduled Monument North of A47

##### A47 Wansford to Sutton Dualling

It is not surprising that National Highways cannot find information from a meeting in 2017. The Wansford to Sutton section of the A47 upgrades is now on its fourth set of design consultants and its third project manager. Such lack of continuity inevitably degrades the overall scheme development and leaves the current project manager in a very difficult position.

The Applicant's response is full of general comments and makes no specific reference to the actual features of the Monument. These features are very well displayed in a geophysical survey commissioned by the Applicant in 2017.

The document Alternative Visions written by Wansford Parish Council using outside help and delivered to Highways England in 2018 clearly shows that the road could be constructed through the Scheduled Monument without any work close to any burial mounds referred to by the Applicant.

The Applicant claims that "It is very clear that earthworks, disturbance and operational impacts from a road traversing 4.865ha of a scheduled monument consisting of burial mounds could cause complete loss of archaeological artifacts and thus the loss of the significance of the heritage asset". It is not clear exactly what they are referring to as this Scheduled Monument has an overall area of approximately 6.3ha and the area covered by the road is approximately 0.6ha (a corridor 215m long and 27m wide). As the road is close to ground level and on good geology there is no need for disturbance outside this corridor. The monument contains no burial mounds as it is a level field. It does contain the remains of ring ditches and possible mounds but none of these would be touched by the alignment through the Monument.

It is very difficult to see how an alignment that does not touch any of the features of a Scheduled Monument can be described as doing substantial damage.